



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Ignatious et al.
Serial No.: 09/171,740
Filed: 20 April 1999
Entitled: SUSTAINED RELEASE IONIC CONJUGATE

ART UNIT: 1615
EXAMINER: Ware

Attorney Docket No.: BIO-034.1P US

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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AMENDMENT
AND REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §114, this amendment is being filed concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination. A Notice of Appeal was filed on May 20, 2003, making the deadline for filing the Appeal Brief July 20, 2003. Applicants' filing of this Request for Continued Examination serves as a request to dismiss the appeal to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences and to re-open prosecution on the merits. A petition for a five-month extension of time, and the appropriate fee, are included herewith, making the new response deadline December 20, 2003 (Saturday).

The following amendments are requested to be entered prior to continued examination. The number of claims is not increased, therefore no additional claims fees are believed to be due.

Please amend the claims as set forth on pages 2-5.

Applicants' remarks begin on page 6.